

R E M A R K S

Claims 11-21 are pending in the application. Claims 11-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph; under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting and under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). The claims have been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the invention. No new matter is added. For reasons detailed below, the rejections should be withdrawn and the claims allowed to issue. Entry of the foregoing amendments is respectfully requested.

1. Double Patenting

Claims 11-21 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-2, 5 and 9-16 of U.S. Patent No. 6,182, 029.

Applicants will submit a terminal disclaimer upon notification of allowable subject matter in the present application.

2. The Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph Should Be Withdrawn

Claims 11-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention.

The Examiner alleges that claims 11, 19 and 21 are amended to be drawn to methods of extracting information on interactions between biological entities from natural language

genomics text data, however, the method steps do not end in extracting any interactions between entities from natural language genomics text data.

Applicants have amended the claims to include a step of "extracting interactions between biological entities from natural-language genomics text data."

In view of the above, Applicants request withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112.

3. The Claims Are Not Obvious

Claims 11-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Friedman C. (U.S. Patent No. 6,182,029; "the '029 patent").

Applicants assert that since both the '029 patent and the instant application were commonly owned at the time the invention was made, i.e., both the '029 patent and the instant application are assigned to The Trustees of Columbia University, the '029 patent cannot be considered prior art. Thus, Applicants request withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103.

CONCLUSION

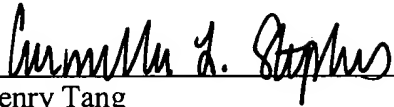
Entry of the foregoing amendments and remarks into the file of the above-identified application is respectfully requested. Applicants believe that the invention described and defined by the amended claims is patentable over the rejections of the Examiner. Withdrawal of all

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rejections and reconsideration of the amended claims is requested. An early allowance is earnestly sought.

Respectfully submitted,

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